

REMARKS

Claims 8 – 11 are pending in the present application. With this Response, Applicant amends claims 8, 9 and 11. No new matter is introduced. Support for the amendments may be found, for example, in FIGs. 17 and 18 and as described at page 29, line 26 through page 30, line 20 of Applicant's specification, and in FIG. 21 and as described at page 34, lines 26 – 34 of Applicant's specification.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 8 – 11 are rejected under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner finds with respect to claims 8 and 9 that the limitations “estimated microphones” and “a synchronous adder which pulls phases of the output signals” lack sufficient antecedent basis in the specification. Applicant amends claims 8 and 9 to recite the terms “microphones”, “a signal which estimates positions of the microphones” and “microphones estimated to be at the estimated positions”, thereby eliminating the term “estimated microphones”. Applicant also amends claim 8 to replace the term “a synchronous adder which phases of the output signals” with “a synchronous adder which aligns phases of the output signals”. Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 8 – 10 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.

With respect to claim 11, the Examiner finds that the limitation “the output signals of the parts of the synchronous adder” is unclear. Applicant amends claim 11 to recite “a plurality of signal estimators ...” and “a plurality of synchronous adders ...”, and replaces the term “the output signals of the parts of the synchronous adder” with the term “the output signals of the

plurality of the synchronous adders". Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 11 under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 be withdrawn.


Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 8 - 11 are not indefinite under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Applicant thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 8 - 11 would be allowable if the rejections under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 were overcome, and respectfully requests that claim 10 and amended claims 8, 9 and 11 be found to be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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